



### QI Month 2024

# Enhancing Parent's Confidence with Neurodevelopmental Care on NNU: The Impact of Increased Availability of Specialist OT and PT

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## What did you do to implement the change/improvement?

Alongside neurological assessment & monitoring, the PT/OT provided individualised neurodevelopmental care prescriptions. These were created following observations of the infant & conversation with parents and staff about presenting areas of difficulty or meaningful co-occupations which were appearing a challenge to complete (i.e. positioning / handling / bathtime / bonding / soothability). A 45-60-minute therapy session was offered to provide education, advice & demonstration on the identified area & a prescription card issued as a reference point. Throughout January & February 2024, a Likert scale of 1-5 (1-minimum/5-maximum) was used with caregivers to self-assess their confidence with the prescription, immediately prior to the therapy session & approximately 3 days later.



#### Have you had any feedback?

100% of parents reported an increase in their confidence level following therapy intervention. Parent Quote:

"The physio & OT input have had a huge impact on the excellent progress that my baby has made and I believe have lessened her need for intervention post discharge – they are a huge asset and I feel an essential part of the neonatal team"

#### What highlighted the improvement opportunity?

Preterm birth is associated with an increased risk of developmental problems & disorders. The early involvement & collaboration of key professions in developing care plans, enhances clinical effectiveness, enables therapeutic interventions, impacts on length of stay, helps avoid complications & improves longer term neurodevelopmental outcomes.

From Dec 2023-April 2024, with the introduction of temporary Ockenden Funding, Physiotherapy (PT) & Occupational Therapy (OT) input on our level 2 unit increased from 1 to 10 hours per week, provided as 2x 5- hour days each week. This remains well below the recommendations of staff outlined in the NICE guidelines.

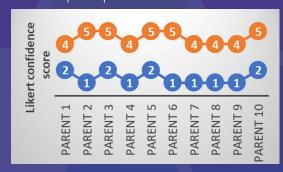
#### What did you want to achieve?

To evidence locally that increased input from specialist PT/OT to promote & integrate neuro-developmental care on the NNU has a positive effect on parental confidence. This correlates with existing research that demonstrates parent/child dyad improves clinical effectiveness & long-term outcomes for both the infant & their whole family.

To promote value of therapy on the NNU as part of our business case, to promote need for further funding in line with NICE guideline recommendations.

## How will/did you know that there has been an improvement?

Likert Scale rating parents confidence pre and post therapy intervention/prescription



Post-Intervention
Pre-Intervention